



S/N 10/004,661

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

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Applicant: Thomas A. Figura
Serial No.: 10/004,661
Filed: December 4, 2001
Title: METHOD AND STRUCTURE FOR IMPROVED ALIGNMENT TOLERANCE
IN MULTIPLE, SINGULARIZED PLUGS

Examiner: Yennhu Huynh
Group Art Unit: 2813
Docket: 303.645US3

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Applicant has reviewed the Office Action mailed on September 12, 2002. Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

IN THE TITLE

Please amend the title as follows: [METHOD AND] STRUCTURE FOR IMPROVED ALIGNMENT TOLERANCE IN MULTIPLE, SINGULARIZED PLUGS

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the claim set in the appendix entitled Clean Version of Pending Claims for the previously pending claim set. The substitute claim set is intended to reflect amendment of previously pending claims 1, 4, and 5, and addition of new claims 32-53. The specific amendments to individual claims are detailed in the following marked up set of claims.

1. (Amended) An integrated circuit device on a substrate, comprising:
[a number of] multiple semiconductor surface structures spaced apart along the substrate;
a number of plugs contacting the substrate between the [number of] multiple
semiconductor surface structures, wherein the number of plugs includes an inner plug and a pair
of outer plugs, wherein the inner and the pair of outer plugs are formed by the method of:
forming a first opening in a first isolation layer on the multiple semiconductor surface
structures, wherein forming the first opening includes exposing portions of the multiple
semiconductor surface structures, and includes exposing portions of the substrate between the
multiple semiconductor surface structures;



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We are transmitting herewith the following attached items (as indicated with an "X"):

- X A return postcard.
- X An Amendment and Response (9 Pages).
- X A Clean Version of Pending Claims (7 pgs.).

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for sufficient number of months to enter these papers and please charge any additional required fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 11 day of December, 2002.

Name

Tim. Kohorst

Signature

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